



PRAYER LIST

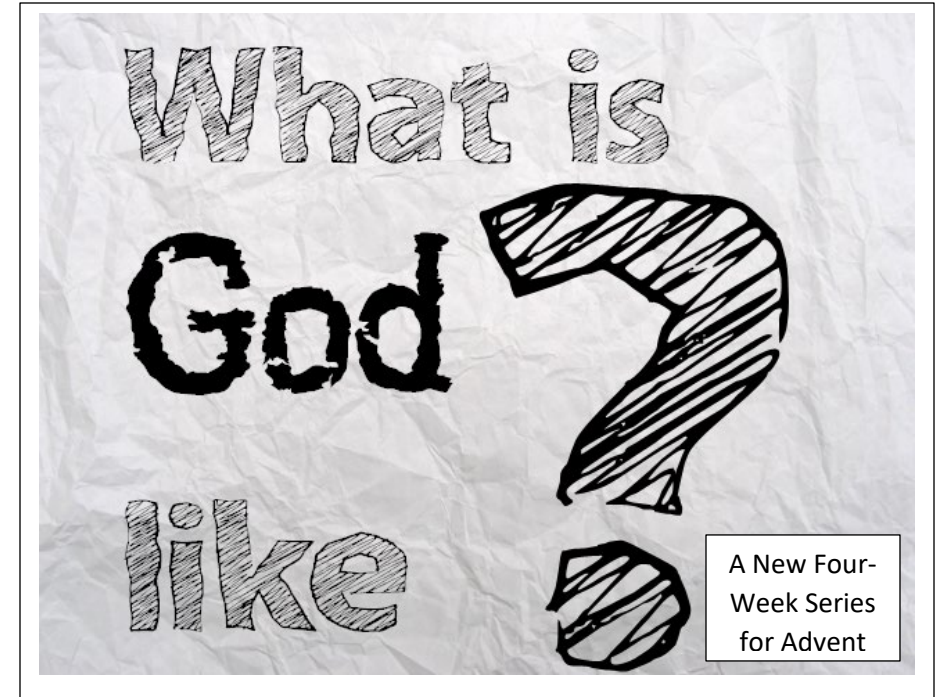
George Essman Johnny Thatcher Daniel Valentine
Pat Henderson Carrie Ashe Eva Kessinger Penny Pollitt
Leona Blackburn B. Collins' daughter Michelle Hanmer Juda Bell Roy Noel
Mary Logan Tammy Davis Cheryl Kant The Brant Family Dan & Sue Hurley
Wanda Wilson Gene & Linda Anspach Rush Family Holt Family Johnson Family
Greg Brown Prudence West Wanda Wilson Jhan Aeh George Mosley

CALENDAR

Nov. 20: First Day of Advent, Begin Worship Series "What is God Like?"
Nov. 27: Deacons Meet, after worship
Nov. 30: COA meets at Welcome Center, Portsmouth (Diane/Pastor) 11:30 A.
*Dec. Deacons will not meet in Dec. 2022
Dec: 1: Food Pantry Closed
Dec. 4: Communion Sunday, Second Day of Advent
Dec. 5: Scheduled meetings 12:30 P. and 7:30 P. (Pastor)
Dec. 6: SCM meeting? (Diane)
Dec. 7: Mission and Congregational Leaders Cmte. meets at 4 P.
Dec. 7: Organ Tuning (TBA)
Dec. 7: Student Loan Cmte. meets at 5:30 P.
Dec. 8: Food Pantry open, 12 – 2 P.
Dec. 9: Tour of Churches
Dec. 14-17: Pastor out of town but returns for Sunday worship.
Dec. 21: Session Meets 5:30 P. (*please note this date is the 3rd Wed.)
Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 5:30 P.
Dec. 25: Christmas Day and Worship.
Dec. 31: Loaves and Fishes 10:00 A. (All Saints)

Pastor's Office Hours for the Week

Mondays: Home office (worship planning & prep.)
Tuesday thru Thursday: 10 AM - 4 PM Fridays: Off
Email: rjohnson.fpc@gmail.com or rev.ron.johnson@gmail.com
Pas. Study: (740)529-7117 M: (434) 770-1052 H: (740) 912-9094
Virginia M. Stinnett, Admin. Aid/Church Secretary, Office Hrs. Tues-Thurs: 9 AM-3:35 PM



First Presbyterian Church

Portsmouth, Ohio

November 27, 2022

Minister: Rev. Ron Johnson, Pastor
Elder Betty Kennedy, Liturgist
Ms. Michele Imes, Choir Director
Dr. Phillip Roberts, Organist
Mr. Dawson Bradley-Selby, Media Coordinator

We Are Glad You're Here!



We Are Glad You Are
Here!

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

First Sunday of Advent

GATHERING THE PEOPLE TOGETHER

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Ron Johnson

PRELUDE

Dr. Phillip Roberts

*A CALL TO GATHER

Pastor Ron Johnson

ADVENT LITANY *(the people's response in bold)*

Elder Betty Kennedy

Leader: In This Advent season of waiting on the Lord,

People: We trust the Lord's goodness. We rely on God's mercy. We find shelter in God's steadfast love.

Leader: In this Advent season of waiting on the Lord.

People: We walk in the Lord's way. We follow God's example of love. We keep our covenant promises.

Leader: In this Advent Season of waiting,

People: Remember your love. Remember each one of us. Remember your people everywhere. Forgive us our sins.

Leader: In this Advent season of waiting,

People: Lord, we wait for your salvation. We wait for your leading. We wait for your coming. AMEN.

***OPENING HYMN** # "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" **PH** *(on screen)*

GOD'S GREETING

CALL TO CONFESSION

Elder Kennedy

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(spoken in unison)*

GOD of mystery and wonder, forgive us for thinking we can contain you and control you. We confess that we forget who you are, a God of delightful surprise and deep belly laughs. Forgive us for assuming you are distant, and for getting you know what it's like to be in our skin. You are bigger than what we can imagine, but you know every trial and temptation we face. Revive our imaginations, restore our childlike faith, and renew us with wonder and joy, all for your name's sake. AMEN.
(Your are invited to silently confess your sins)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Pastor Ron

***Gloria Patri**

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

HEARING AND RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pastor Ron

SPECIAL MUSIC Mariah Ginn performing *Gabriel's Message* Trad. Basque Carol

KEY SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 46 NLT

THE MESSAGE

What is God Like? God is Like a Fort

Pastor Ron

SONG of RESPONSE

#138 "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty" **PH** *(on screen)*

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

Pastor Ron

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

* **PRAYER OF DEDICATION** *(spoken in unison)*

Merciful God, you envision a world where the hungry are fed and strangers are welcomed. We bring you our gifts to share in that vision. With your blessing, may our gifts bear fruit in Christ's name, and offer his blessing to those we serve for his sake. Amen.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***CLOSING HYMN**

#139 "Come, Thou Almighty King" **PH** *(on screen)*

***SENDING/CHARGE**

Soli Deo Gloria *(on screen)*

Pastor Ron

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Dr. Roberts

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Week One - Candle Litany – Hope (*The Prophecy Candle*)

Reader: Today, on this first Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of Hope, a prophecy candle, and think about the hope that is ours in Christ. The prophets wrote of Christ's incarnation long before his birth. As we hear their words, we remember our sin and our need for a Savior.

[Light the first (purple) candle]

In Isaiah 40:1-5 we are given these words of hope:

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.

² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her

that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the Lord's hand
double for all her sins.

³ A voice cries out:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴ Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,

and the rough places a plain.

⁵ Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

From Hebrews 1:1-2, 8, and 12 we read:

¹ Long ago God spoke many times and in many ways to our ancestors through the prophets. ² And now in these final days, he has spoken to us through his Son. God promised everything to the Son as an inheritance, and through the Son he created the universe.

⁸ But to the Son he says,
"Your throne, O God, endures forever and ever.
You rule with a scepter of justice.

¹² You will fold them up like a cloak
and discard them like old clothing.
But you are always the same;
you will live forever."

Readers: Ms. Michele Imes and Elder Betty Kennedy

Please consider a community prayer written by readers, their families and friends doing the Advent readings acknowledging our sin and our need for a Savior. Thank the Lord for the hope we have in Christ. Consider writing out your prayer ahead of time so that you can express thoughts on behalf of the congregation with clarity and brevity.



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